

STRATEGIC PLAN

ISSUE SUMMARY:

The Administrator is required to revise the EPA Strategic Plan. Developing the Strategic Plan provides the Administration an opportunity to communicate the vision, priorities, and strategies for the next four years. Early decisions from the Administrator and policy team on agency priorities and agency leadership roles in plan development are critical to complete the FY 2022-2026 EPA Strategic Plan given the tight deadlines.

UPCOMING MILESTONES:

- (b) (5) [REDACTED]
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- [REDACTED]

BACKGROUND:

- The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) Modernization Act of 2010 requires federal agencies to develop a Strategic Plan every four years, due one year after the presidential inauguration (February 2022).
- The EPA's Strategic Plan establishes the framework for the agency's budget structure and also serves as the basis for agency-wide program planning, priority setting, and resource allocation. Decisions on strategic goals and objectives are critical to formulating the EPA's FY 2023 budget and should be made in early Spring.
- New with this Strategic Plan: The Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act, enacted in January 2019, amends GPRA and requires agencies to incorporate a Learning Agenda and Capacity Assessment as part of the Strategic Plan. OMB Circular A-11 provides details on the content and key milestones. Agencies are required to consult with Congress and obtain input from partners, stakeholders, and the public in developing the plan.
- At a minimum the Strategic Plan should identify strategic goals and objectives. There is also the option to include *stewardship objectives* (focused on mission support: financial management, acquisition, human capital, information technology, etc.) or *crosscutting objectives*, not tied to a strategic goal.
- The Strategic Plan also includes Long-Term Performance Goals, which measure the outcomes or accomplishments to be achieved in the four-year horizon of the plan. The budget contains a set of measures to track annual progress toward the Plan's longer term goals and objectives.

KEY EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS:

☒ Congress ☐ Industry ☒ States ☒ Tribes ☐ Media ☒ Other Federal Agency
☐ NGO ☐ Local Government ☐ Other (name of stakeholder) _____

States (e.g., Environmental Council of the States (ECOS) and Tribes are interested in influencing the Strategic Plan development because they are co-regulators (EPA delegates implementation of regulatory programs to them). Consistent with the requirement for consultation, EPA has historically engaged early with co-regulators in strategic planning and priority setting.

MOVING FORWARD:

- Administrator issues priorities for the EPA.
- OCFO works with Administrator's policy team to obtain decisions on approach and roles for revising the Strategic Plan, including any changes to the strategic goals and objectives and Learning Agenda areas.
- OCFO engages with agency programs and regions to develop the Plan which will incorporate the Learning Agenda and Capacity Assessment.

LEAD OFFICE/REGION: OCFO

OTHER KEY OFFICES/REGIONS: ALL EPA HEADQUARTERS AND REGIONAL OFFICES